

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 12 – 23 with the following:\*

Suitable anionic peptide derivatives X have the general formula (peptide)<sub>n</sub>-B-spacer-(Xaa). The peptide is a sequence of amino acids or amino acid derivatives with a negative charge altogether. Preferably, the peptide consists of three to 30 amino acids, more preferably, it consists only of glutamic acid and/or aspartic acid residues. n represents the number of branchings depending on the functional groups contained in B. B is a branching molecule, preferably lysine or a molecule of the type X in the cases ii) to iv). The spacer is a peptide consisting of 2 to 10 amino acids or an organic amino carboxylic acid having 3 to 9 carbon atoms in the carboxylic acid backbone, e.g. 6-aminohexanoic acid ("Ahx"). The spacer serves the spatial separation of the charged effector molecule from the polymer backbone. Xaa preferably is a trifunctional amino acid, in particular glutamic acid or aspartic acid and can generally be a compound of the type X, in the cases i) to iv).

Please replace the paragraph from page 10, line 24 to page 11, line 3 with the following:\*

If the polymerisation partner X is an amino acid derivative which contains a linker grouping (e.g. 3-mercaptopropionic acid, 6-aminohexanoic acid), it can be obtained in liquid phase according to classic methods of peptide chemistry .

Mercaptopropionic acid is reacted with 2,2'-dithiodipyridine and purified chromatographically. The reaction product is reacted with carboxyl-protected glutamic acid (O-t.butyl) using HOBt/EDC activation (cf. Fig. 1). 6-Fmoc-aminohexanoic acid is reacted analogously. The carboxyl protecting groups are

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\* Applicants enclosed as Appendix A a copy of the amended paragraph marked up pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii) to show changes made.

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removed in TFA/DCM, the resulting glutamic acid derivative is purified using chromatographic methods.